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## JOHN W. FLITTER DIRECTOR ELECTRIC & GAS REGULATION

October 7, 2005

## **VIA HAND-DELIVERY**

Charles L.A. Terreni Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Docket No. 2005-293-E – Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. Application for Permission to Sell Land (in North Carolina) That Is No Longer Needed to Provide Utility Service.

Dear Mr. Terreni,

This is to acknowledge that the Office of Regulatory Staff has reviewed the above referenced filing and based on the following information we have no objection to the Company's request for approval of the transfer and sale of this 242 acres of property located in North Carolina. Per the Application the property to be sold is located on Lake Mayo in Person County, North Carolina, and was originally intended for impoundment purposes and construction of the steam generation plant. The Company has determined that this property is no longer required for current utility operations. The property being sold was purchased in two parcels in 1964 and 1989 for a total original purchase price of \$18,594. The Company obtained a broker's opinion of the possible worth of the 242 acres which provided an estimated value of \$670,000. The property consists of approximately 30 total sites on the lake that will Perc included in the 242 acre parcel. Lake access from the property is restricted and the property is considered "lake view" only. The property has not been developed and therefore no roads or access system is in place nor utility services. The property was marketed for 30 days by the Company and the highest offer of \$1.205 million was accepted. The accepted bid is in excess of both the book value and the broker's opinion of the property value. FERC Account No. 101, Electric plant in service, will be credited the book value of the acreage being sold, and FERC Account No. 421.1, Gain on disposition of property, will be credited the difference between the book value and the sale price.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments in this matter.

Sincerely,

JWF/swh

cc: Dan F. Arnett, Chief of Staff, SC ORS

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Florence Belser, General Counsel, SC ORS Len S. Anthony, Deputy General Counsel, PEC

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Dr. James Spearman